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The guests at the Caccias were Lady Rose Baring, the Hamish Hamiltons, Osbert Lancaster, and Lord and Lady Clitheroe.

October 31, 1962 - Wednesday

Bob Buell, an old friend and former Foreign Service Officer, stopped in to see me this morning, as did Henry Hunt, who is leaving for home tomorrow. [redacted]

The Lebanese Ambassador, Khalil Takieddine, paid a courtesy call. He was director of the Economic and Social Affairs Office, Lebanese Foreign Ministry, before his appointment to London. Aged 58, with 36 years of government service, he is married, speaks French and some English. He has served in USSR, UN, Egypt, Turkey, Sweden, Latin America, and in important government positions in Lebanon.

Arthur Harris, a professional photographer, and member of the City Livery Club, photographed me in connection with a speech I am to make to the Club next week.

We went to lunch at Audrey Bouverie's new house, Thurloe Lodge, at Thurloe Place, near the Victoria and Albert Museum. She has a rather large garden, and many beautiful things in the house. The other guests were the Queen Mother, Lord and Lady Alexander, David Gibbs, and Michael Renshaw. The Queen Mother, often affectionately referred to as the Queen Mum, is an absolute charmer.

Biffin Ellsworth came to call. He is several months younger than me. We [redacted] gloomily reminisced about how few of the twenty members of the club called "The Room" in New York, to which we once belonged, are still alive. Kermit and Teddy Roosevelt, Vincent Astor, Marshall Field, Eugene Poole, and half a dozen others [redacted] died before the club was disbanded many years ago.

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Charlie Adams stopped in to see me. He is on one of his periodic Raytheon trips.

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You are free to talk about or bring up any specific subjects or problems but I urge that you refrain from criticizing the Congress for not giving us something or for not providing some resource. His normal rejoinder is that you should take up such problems with the Department itself since it is the Department which distributes the resources.

I also urge that the escort officer's wife not discuss servant problems--we don't have servants here you will recall.

4. Mrs. Rooney

Mrs. Rooney will accompany the party at all times, including the briefings. There will be no separate arrangements made for her by the wives, for she prefers to stay with the group. She is not interested in shopping unless it is also done by the group. This should be known by the escort officer's wife and other wives she will encounter.

5. Luncheon

If the Ambassador's schedule permits, it would be appreciated if the party was invited to the residence for lunch, together with the principal officers of the Embassy. It should be simple and informal and there should be no foreign guests. The Rooneys are on quite a tight diet and, therefore, prefer simple American dishes to exotic types of food.

6. Foreign Officials

Mr. Rooney will not wish to see any foreign officials.

7. Sightseeing

After the normal work at the Embassy is finished, it would be in order for the escort officer to suggest a tour of the city which would include the most interesting local sights. The Rooneys are Catholics and might be interested in seeing any Catholic shrines or churches of note (I am sure, however, he does not want to spend an entire afternoon seeing only cathedrals). As I said above, he is not what you would call a tourist in the normal sense of the word.

8. Shopping

Mr. and Mrs. Rooney are not avid shoppers in the sense that they hunt for souvenirs or local products. However, if there is something of particular local interest that you think they might

be interested

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My personal predilection is for the City at night. Then one can roam, without hindrance, to gaze upon that combination of antiquity and modernity, within a small compass, which for picturesqueness and inspiration finds no match elsewhere.

The spectacular spires of New York, the grace of Paris, the grandeur of Rome, the glories of Vienna, to characterise a few capitals at random, are a delight to the eye, but I doubt if there is in any of them such a concentration of interest as the City provides.

I had an office in Brittenham House during 1940, and part of 1941, when the City was exposed to such misfortunes as it had not suffered since the Great Plague and the Great Fire. That it has recovered from these evil onslaughts, repaired structural damage, literally risen from its ashes, surely provides one of the finest examples of national resolution.

To most Americans, the City has always been a magnet. The romances of Harrison Ainsworth, the accounts of Defoe, the works of other authors, however fictionalised, have served to kindle the liveliest expectations in visitors. Og, Gog and Magog are giants no more familiar to Englishmen born within the sound of Bow Bells than they are to tourists from beyond the seas.

Dr. Samuel Johnson, in spite of having pronounced that he was ready to like every one except an American, has always had an admiring following in my country. A passionate Londoner, he said: "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford."

But enough of that. In my present position, my dealings are chiefly with officials of your national Government. Our transactions are made agreeable, and, I hope, constructive, by the harmony that generally prevails in the views of our respective peoples on foreign policy.

It would be undesirable, in the relationship between two great democracies, if we did not, at times, have decided differences of opinion. But these usually arise over matters of method and style rather than over substance. It would be difficult to cite more than a few instances since the last war when our fundamental positions were not substantially in accord.

We are both global powers in the sense that our interests encompass the world. There are no other Governments with such far-flung responsibilities, though I could mention at least two ambitious to assume them.

As a consequence, the habit of constant consultation between our statesmen is recognised as necessary to our common welfare and security.

There are almost innumerable instances where this has proved beneficial to us both, as well as to others.

No-one has ever been able to foretell the future, though optimists and Cassandras have attempted to do so. That we shall continue to be subjected to trials of a deadly and frightening character is certain. The existence of nuclear weapons would alone make this true.

The same scientific genius that discovered nuclear secrets has also been addressed to other tasks. The result is a proliferation of industrial, agricultural, and divers developments, which, if applied to raising standards of living, would enable humanity to enjoy necessities, comforts, and luxuries in a plenitude never before experienced.

Under the threat of war, and the concomitant application of a large portion of national budgets to armaments, resources are strained, diverted, and, in the absence of conflict, sterilised.

Only one remedy, and that a partial one, exists to meet this situation, namely, disarmament. For over seventeen years, its desirability has been acknowledged; but, in spite of protracted conferences, agreement has not been reached in this field.

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